

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 NIC-01 ACDA-05 OES-03 EB-04 IO-04

FEA-01 /074 W

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R 221608Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3712

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS/ ETRD EFIN ENRG TECH UR COMECON

SUBJECT: CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN MOSCOW

REF: MOSCOW 16036

1. SOVIET PRESS HAS PROVIDED ONLY VERY GENERAL INFORMATION ON UNUSUALLY LONG, FOUR-DAY (OCT 15-18) MEETING IN MOSCOW OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CEMA. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY DEPUTY PREMIERS OF ALL CEMA MEMBER COUNTRIES EXCEPT CUBA. YUGOSLAVIA WAS REPRESENTED BY MEMBER OF GOY FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BORISAV JOVIC.

2. MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTED WERE:

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A) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PROGRAM THROUGH 1980. PROGRAM CONCERNED WITH "RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF RAW MATERIAL RESOURCES" AND WAS WORKED OUT BY CEMA COMMISSION ON SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION. IT INVOLVES "ELEVEN MAJOR PROBLEMS WHICH INCLUDE 155 SPECIFIC THEMES." COMMITTEE WAS BRIEFED ON PROGRAM BY TWO HIGH-RANKING CEMA OFFICIALS-V. KIRILLIN, CHAIRMAN OF USSR STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ALSO CHAIRMAN OF CEMA COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION, AND G. THOMS, GDR DEPUTY MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES AND ALSO CHAIRMAN OF CEMA COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

B) CEMA POSITION ON COOPERATION IN AREA OF "MATERIAL-TECHNICAL SUPPLY" WAS OFFICIALLY AFFIRMED.

C) COMMITTEE APPROVED POSITION ADOPTED BY MEETING OF LABOR MINISTERS OF CEMA COUNTRIES FOR COOPERATION BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY IN AREA OF "LABOR, WAGES AND SOCIAL SECURITY."

D) COMMITTEE TOOK SPECIAL NOTE OF UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION GRANTING CEMA OBSERVER STATUS IN UN, AND DIRECTED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FADEYEV TO TAKE NECESSARY FOLLOW-UP STEPS.

E) SPECIAL MENTION WAS MADE OF DEVELOPING AND SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND CEMA OVER PAST TEN YEARS. (REPORTED REFTEL).

F) "OTHER MATTERS" ON CEMA MULTILATERAL COOPERATION WERE DISCUSSED.

3. COMMENT: AS IS GENERALLY THE CASE WITH OFFICIAL CEMA REPORTING, THERE ARE CONSPICUOUS OMISSIONS, UNANSWERED QUESTIONS, WHY WAS OFFICIAL POSITION ON "COOPERATION IN MATERIAL-TECHNICAL SUPPLY"--WHICH NEARS A FIXED ARRANGEMENT ON DISTRIBUTION OF RAW MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT--MERELY AFFIRMED BUT NOT APPROVED? WERE ROMANIAN AND POSSIBLY HUNGARIAN OBJECTIONS INVOLVED? WHAT ARE THE ELEVEN MAJOR PROBLEMS IN NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAM? AND WHY NO MENTION OF 1976-80 PLAN COORDINATION--PRIME TARGET IN SOVIET PLANS FOR CEMA'S FUTURE? FAILURE TO DEAL WITH THESE QUESTIONS IN PRESS DOES NOT MEAN THAT PROGRESS NOT BEING ACHIEVED, BUT IT DOES IMPLY THAT IT IS OFTEN NOT AS RAPID AS SOVIETS WOULD LIKE. ON OTHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAND, VERY FACT THAT COORDINATION EFFORTS HAVE ADVANCED AS FAR AS THEY HAVE--TO ECONOMIC PLANNING, LABOR RELATIONS, WAGES, AND DISTRIBUTION OF RAW MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY--IS IN ITSELF MARK OF PROGRESS FOR SOVIET OBJECTIVES. FURTHERMORE, USSR NOW HAS POWERFUL NEW DEVICE FOR EXERTION OF PRESSURE IN CEMA AFFAIRS--THE SUPPLY OF OIL, NATURAL GAS AND OTHER FORMS OF ENERGY. STOESEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW16038
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740301-0714
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741027/aaaaawwf.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 16036
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <05 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN MOSCOW
TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, ENRG, TECH, UR, COMECON
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005